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MONDAY
APRIL 5, 1954

I went to see Doug Dillon at 11:30 and we talked about EDC. Afterwards, he said he had been called out of bed at midnight yesterday and had gone to the Elysée. He found the French Government most concerned over the situation in Indo-China, and told me in entire secrecy he had been asked to transmit a message to Washington requesting the intervention of planes from U. S. aircraft carriers to assist the garrison at Dien Bien Phu.

I went to see John Hughes at his office this morning. The members of the NATO Council are in a difficult position because of Marshal Juin's interviews and statements. They wish to take cognizance of his disobedience but not to make him a martyr.

Eric Gibbs of Time called on me this afternoon. I had read his proposed article on Bidault. I thought it harsh in some respects and I did not have the impression he had caught the full flavor of Bidault's personality. This is natural, since he has never had any close working relationship with him. Madame Bidault had given him much of his information, and he had found her [redacted] interesting. Bidault is [redacted] complex, and, to my mind, a fascinating and irritating fellow. It is difficult to know whether he has a hard core of integrity, since he moves so obscurely toward his objectives that one is sometimes tempted to think he is an indecisive opportunist. His conduct at Berlin was magnificent, but the real test will be as to how he handles EDC and the Indo-Chinese situation.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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